



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: SR-6J

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND USPS

October 15, 2007

Jennifer Hale  
Environment Health & Safety, WTC 2G2  
P.O. Box 9777  
Federal Way, WA 98063-9777

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



314016

RE: Plainwell Mill, Operable Unit #7, Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Site  
Response to Weyerhaeuser September 28, 2007 and October 8, 2007 Letters

Dear Ms. Hale:

Thank you for your letters addressing the comments made by the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 (U.S. EPA). After an expedited review of the additional information provided in the letters, U.S. EPA is approving the specific site preparation task two (clearing of construction zones to allow preparation of the top of bank work platform) from your letter of September 17, 2007. The U.S. EPA is also providing conditional approval of specific site preparation task five (constructing residuals containment area) from your letter of September 17, 2007. Final approval is pending an adequate response to the comment below:

1. The current design of the Residual Containment Pad calls for a 40 mil LLDPE liner between two layers of sand. The U.S. EPA is concerned the 40 mil LLDPE liner could be punctured during operation with this current design. Please consider methods (e.g. adding felt to the top and bottom of the LLDPE liner) to prevent puncture.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to call me at 312.886.1434, should you have any questions related to the task.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SC", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sam Chummar, Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. EPA Region 5  
Superfund Division – Remedial Response Branch #1  
77 W Jackson Blvd. (SR-6J)  
Chicago, IL 60604

cc: Eileen Furey, C-14J  
Sharon Jaffess, SR-6J  
James Saric, SR-6J  
Michael Berkoff, SR-6J  
Paul Bucholtz, MDEQ